



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day-22-1011; Docket No. CDC-2022-0047]

Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice with comment period.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comment on a request for extension of an approved information collection titled Emergency Epidemic Investigation Data Collections. CDC uses the information collected to identify prevention and control measures in response to outbreaks and other public health events.

DATES: CDC must receive written comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION DATE IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC-2022-0047 by either of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- Mail: Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS H21-8, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. CDC will post, without change, all relevant comments to regulations.gov.

Please note: Submit all comments through the Federal eRulemaking portal (regulations.gov) or by U.S. mail to the address listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, contact Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS H21-8, Atlanta, Georgia 30329; phone: 404-639-7570; E-mail: omb@cdc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. In addition, the PRA also requires federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the *Federal Register* concerning each proposed collection of information, including each new proposed collection, each proposed extension of existing collection of information, and each reinstatement of previously approved information collection before submitting the

collection to the OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, we are publishing this notice of a proposed data collection as described below.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments that will help:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses; and
5. Assess information collection costs.

Proposed Project

Emergency Epidemic Investigation Data Collections (OMB Control No. 0920-1011, Exp. 1/31/2023) - Extension - Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development (DSEPD),

Center for Surveillance, Education, and Laboratory Services (CSELS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC).

Background and Brief Description

CDC previously conducted Emergency Epidemic Investigations (EEIs) under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 0920-0008. In 2013, CDC received OMB approval (OMB Control No. 0920-1011) for a new OMB generic clearance for a three-year period to collect vital information during EEIs in response to outbreaks or other urgent public health events (i.e., natural, biological, chemical, nuclear, radiological), characterized by undetermined agents, undetermined sources, undetermined transmission, or undetermined risk factors. This generic clearance was approved in 2020 for a three-year extension, which expires on 1/31/2023. CDC seeks OMB approval for an extension of this Generic clearance for an additional three-year period.

Supporting effective emergency epidemic investigations is one of the most important ways that CDC protects the health of the public. CDC is frequently called upon to conduct EEIs at the request of local, state, or international health authorities seeking support to respond to outbreaks or urgent public health events. In response to external partner requests, CDC provides necessary epidemiologic support to identify the agents, sources, modes of transmission, or risk factors to effectively implement rapid prevention and control measures to protect the public's health. Data collection is a critical component of the

epidemiologic support provided by CDC; data are analyzed to determine the agents, sources, modes of transmission, or risk factors so that effective prevention and control measures can be implemented. During an unanticipated outbreak or urgent public health event, immediate action by CDC is necessary to minimize or prevent public harm. The legal justification for EEIs are found in the Public Health Service Act (42 USC Sec. 301 [241] (a).

Successful investigations are dependent on rapid and flexible data collection that evolves during the investigation and is customized to the unique circumstances of each outbreak or urgent public health event. Data collection elements will be those necessary to identify the agents, sources, mode of transmission, or risk factors. Examples of potential data collection methods include telephone or face-to-face interview; e-mail, web, or other type of electronic questionnaire; paper-and-pencil questionnaire; focus groups; medical record review and abstraction; laboratory record review and abstraction; collection of clinical samples; and environmental assessment. Respondents will vary depending on the nature of the outbreak or urgent public health event. Examples of potential respondents include health care professionals, patients, laboratorians, and the general public.

CDC projects 60 EEIs in response to outbreaks or urgent public health events characterized by undetermined agents, undetermined sources, undetermined transmission, or undetermined

risk factors annually. The projected average number of respondents is 200 per EEI, for a total of 12,000 respondents. CDC estimates the average burden per response is 30 minutes and each respondent will be asked to respond once. Based on the reported burden for EEIs that have been performed during previous years, the total estimated annual burden hours are 6,000. Participation in EEIs is voluntary and there are no anticipated costs to respondents other than their time.

Estimated Annualized Burden Hours

Type of Respondent	Form Name	Number of Respondents	Number of Responses per Respondent	Average Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Burden Hours (in hours)
Emergency Epidemic Investigation Participants	Emergency Epidemic Investigation Data Collection Instruments	12,000	1	30/60	6,000
Total					6,000

Jeffrey M. Zirger,

Lead,

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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